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Vice Mayor M. R. Lindy Hockenberry.... 703-241-0934
City Council David C. Chavern 703-538-2398
Harold Lippman..... 703-237-9089
Daniel Maller 703-731-8433
David F. Snyder..... 703-241-0419
Daniel X. Sze 703-538-5986
City Manager Wyatt Shields..... 703-248-5004*
Home Page <www.fallschurchva.gov>
* Indicates TTY 711 Accessibility



THE WEEK

PROVIDED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Questions or Comments? City of Falls Church, Harry E. Wells Building, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, VA 22046 **703-248-5003 (TTY 711)**

The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. This document will be made available in alternate format upon request. Call 703-248-5003 (TTY 711).

FOR THE WEEK OF

CITY CALENDAR

AUGUST

- 2** Story Hour, 10:30 a.m.
Concerts in the Park, 7 p.m.
- 3** FIRSTfriday Event
- 4** Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-Noon
Harry Potter Party, 2 p.m.
- 6** Yard Waste, Bundled Brush,
& Special Collections
Story Hour, 10:30 a.m.
City Council Work Session, 7:30 p.m.
Planning Commission, 7:45 p.m.
- 7** Juvenile & Domestic Relations
Court in Session
Story Hour, 10:30 a.m.
School Board Work Session, 7 p.m.
- 8** General District Court in Session
Citizens Advisory Committee on
Transportation, 7 p.m.
Story Hour, 7 p.m.
- 9** Story Hour, 10:30 a.m.
- 10** Sunset Cinema, 8:30 p.m.
- 11** Farmers Market, 8 a.m.-Noon

Sign Up For Alert Falls Church

Get real-time updates and instructions on what to do and where to go during an emergency in Falls Church City, by registering for Falls Church Alert. You will receive alerts from the City via portable electronic devices and e-mail, only in the event of an emergency. Sign up for this free service at alert.fallschurchva.gov. You can also visit alert.fallschurchva.gov to update your profile, and add or delete devices from the emergency distribution list.

2007 Vehicle Verification Forms Mailed This Week

The Commissioner of the Revenue mailed Vehicle Verification Forms to all City residents this week. If you have purchased or sold a vehicle in 2007 or have other changes to your vehicle record, you must return your completed form to the Commissioner by Aug. 21. Prompt receipt of your changes ensures accurate Personal Property (Vehicle) Tax bills when the Treasurer's Office issues them in early September. Forms can be faxed to 703-248-5212; e-mailed to commissioner@fallschurchva.gov; or mailed to Commissioner of the Revenue, 300 Park Ave., Room 104E, Falls Church, VA 22046. Questions? Call 703-248-5065 (TTY 711).



**Register for the City's Online
Newsletter at www.fallschurchva.gov**



alert.fallschurchva.gov
Register to Receive Emergency Alerts

Annual Street Paving Underway

Falls Church City has contracted with Virginia Paving to mill and resurface commercial and residential streets in sections of the City selected according to road condition criteria. Paving began on Monday, July 30 and will continue through mid-September.

The following streets are scheduled to be paved. Each street will take several days to complete, weather permitting.

- West Broad Street (Route 7) from South West Street to South Spring Street
- South Washington Street (Route 29) from West Broad Street to Annandale Road
- North Washington Street (Route 29) from West Broad Street to Columbia Street
- Church Place from East Broad Street to the dead end
- North Cherry Street from East Broad Street to East Jefferson Street

- Maple Avenue from Great Falls Street to Columbia Street
- Falls Avenue from West Broad Street to the dead end

Work on West Broad Street was completed earlier this week. All other streets will be paved beginning Monday, Aug. 13 between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Paving will be completed one lane at a time to allow through traffic. Please watch for "No Parking" signs and refrain from parking on the street on the indicated dates/times. Residents will be able to enter and exit their driveways while work is in progress.

For more information, please contact the Operations Division of the City's Department of Environmental Services at 703-248-5081 (TTY 711).

Fall Festival and Taste of Falls Church a Perfect Pairing

On Saturday, Sept. 15, the City of Falls Church welcomes the fall season with the newly combined Fall Festival and the Taste of Falls Church. This free event features local artists, restaurants, live entertainment and children's activities from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the grounds of City Hall and the adjacent Cherry Hill Park.

Restaurants and artists interested in participating can contact Jenny Elmore at 703-248-5077 (TTY 711) or jelmore@fallschurchva.gov. The deadline to register is Wednesday, Aug. 15.

4th Annual Sunset Cinema Features Three Blockbuster Hits Three Fridays in August

The City of Falls Church Recreation & Parks Division presents the 4th Annual Sunset Cinema in the Park three Fridays this August. The screenings begin at 8:30 p.m. and are free to the public. Moviegoers are invited to bring blankets, bug spray, and picnics and watch three great movies under the stars. Ice cream will be available for purchase.

The screenings will be held at Cherry Hill Park, located at 312 Park Ave. In the case of inclement weather, the screenings will take place in the Community Center located next to the Park at 223 Little Falls St. For more information, call 703-248-5077 (TTY 711).



Friday, Aug. 10, 8:30 p.m.
"Happy Feet" (Rated PG, 2006)
Friday, Aug. 17, 8:30 p.m.
"The Wizard of Oz" (1939)
Friday, Aug. 24, 8:30 p.m.
"Charlotte's Web" (Rated G, 2006)

The City of Falls Church is committed to the letter and spirit of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request a reasonable accommodation for any type of disability, call 703-248-5077 (TTY 711).

Classes and Events

Special Events Concerts in the Park

Aug. 2, 7 p.m.
Cherry Hill Park, 312 Park Ave.
Enjoy this year's last Summer Concert in the Park featuring free musical entertainment sponsored by the City of Falls Church Recreation & Parks Division and the Village Preservation and Improvement Society. Local artists and their artwork sponsored by the Falls Church Arts Council. For details, call 703-248-5077 (TTY 711).

Randy Barrett and the Barrettones (Bluegrass)

Artists: Eileen Levy (Paintings) and M. Layne Kalbfleisch (Photography)

4th Annual Sunset Cinema

Fridays, Aug. 10, 17 and 24, 8:30 p.m.
Cherry Hill Park, 312 Park Ave.

Free fun for the entire family! Bring a blanket, bug spray, and a picnic and spend the evening watching a movie on a large outdoor screen. Ice cream available for purchase.

Aug. 10 • "Happy Feet"

Aug. 17 • "The Wizard of Oz"

Aug. 24 • "Charlotte's Web"

Mary Riley Styles Library Activities

120 N. Virginia Ave.

Harry Potter Party

Saturday, Aug. 4, 2 p.m.
Celebrate and discuss the final book in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series at a special Harry Potter Party. The event will feature fun Harry Potter-themed activities, games, and food.

Lula the Clown

Wednesday, Aug. 8, 7 p.m.
The amazing Jeanne Wall presents "Let's Make a Circus."

Fingerprint Art

Thursday, Aug. 9, 2 p.m.
See how you can create unique pictures – and even a whole book – with the tips of your fingers! Registration required. Call 703-248-5034 (TTY 711).

Mystery Night

Wednesday, Aug. 15, 7 p.m.
Be the detective! Gather clues, question suspects and try to figure out which of the Mary Riley Styles Library Players committed a crime!



City of Falls Church
Farmers Market
Every Saturday
from 8 a.m. - Noon

Going Green

Help Revive Our Local Streams

Storm drains lead directly to our local streams without treatment, but there are many small steps you can take to help reduce pollutants in our local tributaries.



- **Clean up after your dog.** Pet waste contains harmful bacteria that spreads disease.
- **Don't let oil drip.** Fix vehicle oil leaks and NEVER dump used oil.
- **Don't over fertilize.** Read fertilizer labels carefully and apply the correct amount.
- **Reduce chemicals.** Don't use toxic weed killers and pesticides on your property.
- **Cut it high and let it lie.** Cut your grass less often and leave clippings on the lawn.
- **Dump no waste.** Remember that only rain belongs in our storm drains.

For more information, contact Falls Church City's Environmental Programs Specialist at 703-248-5176 (TTY 711) or visit www.onlyrain.org.

Virginia Sales Tax Holiday—Aug. 3-5, 2007

This year's Virginia Sales Tax Holiday runs Friday, Aug. 3 through Sunday, Aug. 5. During this time, sales tax will be suspended on certain school supplies costing \$20 or less per item, and clothing and footwear costing \$100 or less per article/pair.

The Sales Tax Holiday is applicable at any business in Virginia that sells items exempt during the three-day period.

Sign up for e-FOCUS Today!

Did you receive the City's bi-monthly online newsletter, *e-FOCUS* in your e-mail inbox today? If not, you can check it out online at www.fallschurchva.gov.

The *e-FOCUS* highlights the City's financial, environmental, transportation, economic development, housing, and recreational happenings.

Anyone interested in receiving the *e-FOCUS* via e-mail should e-mail publicinfo@fallschurchva.gov with "e-FOCUS Subscribe" in the Subject line.

For more information, call the Office of Communications at 703-248-5003 (TTY 711).

Falls Church Recreation & Parks Division
223 Little Falls Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
703-248-5077

Phone Numbers

Open Gym/Weather Hotline 703-248-5125*
Special Events Hotline 703-248-5178*
Fax 703-536-5125
Senior Center 703-248-5020/21*

Community Center Hours

Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Friday 8 a.m. - Midnight
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - Midnight
Sunday Noon - 6 p.m.

Open Gym Hours

Open Gym hours are updated on a bi-weekly basis and are also posted on the Open Gym Hotline, 703-248-5125*. All hours are subject to change.

* Indicates TTY 711 Accessibility

LY FOCUS

GOVERNMENT AND THE FALLS CHURCH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

AUGUST 2-8, 2007

For more news about the Falls Church City Public Schools visit: www.fccps.org

“Victorian Falls Church” Tells City’s Storied Past

During the Victorian era, 1840-1910, Falls Church saw its most significant growth prior to World War II. “Victorian Falls Church,” a new book produced by The Victorian Society at Falls Church and published by Arcadia Publishing, depicts this important period in Falls Church History.

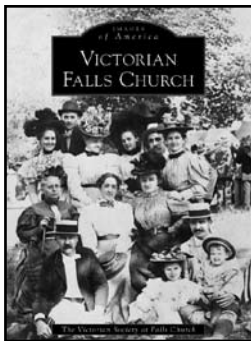
“Victorian Falls Church” contains more than 200 vintage images, many from the Mary Riley Styles Public Library, and some from Falls Church citizens. The images portray the people, places and events that are central to the Victorian heritage of Falls Church. During the Victorian era, the area and lifestyles of its residents were significantly impacted by the Northern migration into the South for better farmland; the Civil War; the expansion of railway service; the developing role as a suburb of Washington, D.C.; and military buildup during the Spanish-American War.

“Victorian Falls Church” is now available for purchase at area bookstores. On Friday, Aug. 10 from 7-9 p.m., there will be a book signing at the Barnes and Noble in

Tysons Corner. The Victorian Society at Falls Church will also host two events highlighting this era: a Victorian fashion exhibit at Cherry Hill Farmhouse Sept. 15-23; and a tea focusing on the Victorian heritage of Falls Church on Sunday, Sept. 16 at the Falls Church Presbyterian Church (225 E. Broad St.).

The Victorian Society at Falls Church, a chapter of the Victorian Society in America, was founded in 1995 to promote the Victorian heritage of Falls Church and to foster knowledge of the Victorian era through education and preservation. For more information, visit www.victoriansociety.org/fallschurch.html.

To learn more about Falls Church history, visit the Local History Room at MRS Library (120 N. Virginia Ave.).



Beware of Bats

You’re not the only one enjoying these warm summer nights. Long summer days and short summer nights bring out wildlife as well. Bats can be an active presence during the summer.

Residents who encounter a bat in their home should never touch or remove the bat. Animal Control should be notified immediately to evaluate the situation and capture the animal. Bats are considered high-risk rabies vectors and by order of the state health department, any bat, alive or dead, found in the living space of a residence should be captured and tested for rabies. Animal Control will determine if an actual rabies exposure has occurred.

If a bat is found in the living quarters near a child, mentally handicapped person, intoxicated person, sleeping person, or pet, the person or pet should receive immediate medical attention for rabies. Bats have very small teeth and can bite a sleeping person without necessarily being felt.

Only 0.5 percent of bats carry rabies. However, of the very few cases of rabies reported in the United States every year, most are caused by bat bites. While rabid bats are rare, those that carry the virus may be clumsy, disoriented, and unable to fly. This makes it more likely that they will come into contact with humans.

Health officials recommend the following steps to prevent families and pets from exposure to rabies:

- Vaccinate all cats, dogs and ferrets against rabies and keep the vaccination current.
- Avoid contact with wild animals, stray cats, and stray dogs.
- Do not feed wild animals, stray cats, and stray dogs. If you see a raccoon, skunk, fox, or any other wild animal acting as though it may be sick, contact Animal Control or the Police Department immediately.
- Eliminate outdoor food sources around the home.
- Do not let your pet cats or dogs roam freely, especially at night.
- Keep children and pets away from storm drains. Wild animals run through storm drains, so there is always a threat that an animal may be lingering at the entrance.

In the event of a bat encounter, contact the City’s Animal Control Officer immediately at 703-248-5172 (TTY 711).



Time to Start Collecting School Supplies

It’s never too early to prepare for the coming school year, and it’s easier than ever to find out what school supplies students will need when school starts on September 4, 2007. The lists for Falls Church City public school students are available online at www.fccps.org/parents. Parents who purchased a supply kit from the PTA earlier in the year should check the online lists for last minute additions.

FCC-TV Spotlight: *In the Fight*

Tune in to Falls Church Community Television (FCC-TV) to watch *In the Fight*, a monthly half-hour program showing the latest action from the field from all branches of the US Armed Forces. *In the Fight* airs on FCC-TV at the following times:

- Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.
- Thursdays at 8:30 a.m.
- Sundays at 7:30 a.m.

FCC-TV airs on Cox Channel 12, Verizon Channel 35 and RCN Channel 2. For more information about FCC-TV, or for a complete schedule of the variety of community programs on FCC-TV, visit www.fccv.net or call 703-248-5538.



Superintendent Urges Changes in No Child Left Behind Act

As Congress begins its work on the reauthorization of the federal *No Child Left Behind Act*, Virginia school superintendents are urging legislators to make structural changes to the law to enable educators to better assess student achievement and school improvement. Falls Church City Public Schools Superintendent Lois Berlin was among those who made their case last week in a meeting with members of Virginia’s Congressional Delegation.

“My colleagues and I agree a growth model would be a more accurate reflection of school and student performance than the current testing model,” Berlin said. “A growth model would allow us to measure and track progress over time for each class of students through multiple sources of assessment, rather than through a single, standardized test administration.”

More than one dozen Virginia school superintendents attended the meeting on Capitol Hill to propose a growth model for assessment as well as other structural changes to the legislation. Other recom-



FCCPS Superintendent Dr. Lois Berlin (left) meets with members of Virginia’s Congressional Delegation.

mendations included allowing more appropriate measures for student achievement among limited English speakers, allowing the graduation rate to include special needs students who have fulfilled the graduation requirements as prescribed in their Individual Education Plans and have been awarded diplomas, and appropriating funding to fully implement the law.

Legislators who attended the meeting agreed that the federal legislation needs work and offered to seek advice from Virginia school superintendents throughout the reauthorization process. Representatives Tom Davis, Frank Wolfe, Bob Goodlatte and Virgil Goode attended the meeting. Staff members representing the rest of the Virginia Congressional Delegation also attended the meeting.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

August

- 3** Summer School Ends
- 8** 9:00 AM Mason @ Curly Licklinder Tourn. (Golf)
- 9** 10:00 AM Mason @ Rappahannock County (Golf)
- 14** 1:00 PM Mason @ Strasburg (Golf)
- 20** Orientation for New Teachers Begins (GM)
6:30 PM School Board Work Session (MEH)
- 28** 7:30 PM School Board Meeting

September

- 3** **Labor Day** (Central Office / Schools / Day Care closed)
 - 4** First day of school
(MD) Mt. Daniel Elementary
(TJ) Thomas Jefferson Elementary
(MEH) Mary Ellen Henderson Middle
(GM) George Mason High
- Check the FCCPS Web site for more calendar information.
www.fccps.org



BIE Partner of the Week Dr. Steven Rogers Falls Church Animal Hospital

School involvement: Sponsors the All-Night Grad Party and Operation Earthwatch; participates in career education programs and works with high school students.

Why Steve is a BIE partner: “Falls Church is a great place to live. We know so many families and their pets from their visits to the Falls Church Animal Hospital. We’re glad to be able to support the community in many ways – especially through the schools.”

For more information about sharing your expertise through the BIE Partnership, visit www.fccps.org or contact Marybeth Connelly at connellym@fccps.org.



School content published in *The Weekly Focus* is written and edited by the Falls Church City Public Schools. For more information, contact the Falls Church City Public Schools Communications Office. Phone: (703) 248-5699 Fax: (703) 248-5613.

**Registration
Now Open
FCCPS Fall Day
Care / ASAP
www.fccps.org/asap**